

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 01666 260456Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 ARA-10 EA-10 NEA-10
CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0986
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 01666

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, SF, WA
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: REACTIONS TO SOUTH
AFRICAN ACCEPTANCE OF PROPOSAL

1. AFRICAN DELEGATIONS GENERALLY REACTED TO THE
SOUTH AFRICAN ANNOUNCEMENT OF ACCEPTANCE OF THE
WESTERN NAMIBIAN PROPOSALS WITH SKEPTICISM. MOST OF
THE DELEGATES WITH WHOM WE TALKED IN THE CORRIDORS
APRIL 25 CENTERED THEIR COMMENTS ON THE POINTS
RAISED IN VORSTER'S STATEMENT, ESPECIALLY WALVIS BAY.
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PAGE 02 USUN N 01666 260456Z

THEY URGED THAT THE U.S. AND THE WESTERN GROUP ISSUE
A STATEMENT OF POSITION ON WALVIS BAY.
ALTERNATE TANZANIAN PERM REP CHALE SAID SWAPO COULD NOT
MOVE TO ACCEPT THE WESTERN PROPOSALS UNTIL THE WESTERN
POSITION ON WALVIS BAY IS MADE CLEAR. WHILE HE
ACCEPTED THAT THE ATTITUDE OF THE FIVE IS WELL KNOWN
TO HIS GOVERNMENT AND OTHERS, HE SAID A WRITTEN COMMITMENT

TO SUPPORT THE NAMIBIAN CLAIM TO WALVIS BAY AFTER INDEPENDENCE IS NECESSARY TO BRING SWAPO AND OTHER AFRICANS TO FULL SUPPORT OF THE PROPOSALS.

2. EUROPEANS AND OTHERS, OUTSIDE THE WESTERN FIVE, EXPRESSED SURPRISE AT THE SOUTH AFRICAN MOVE AND QUESTIONED SOUTH AFRICA'S TACTICAL OBJECTIVES. IN THE MAIN, HOWEVER, OUTSIDE OBSERVERS WERE INTERESTED IN THE REACTION OF THE FIVE AND HAD NO DISTINCT VIEWS OF THEIR OWN. SUPPORT FOR THE WESTERN PROPOSALS CONTINUES TO BE STRONG, IN GENERAL, BUT THERE IS CONTINUING CONCERN ABOUT THE AFRICAN REACTION. A NUMBER OF DELEGATIONS (NORWAY, INDIA, PAKISTAN, SRI LANKA, AUSTRIA, ITALY, NETHERLANDS, DENMARK, JAPAN) SAID THEY WERE INFORMALLY URGING AFRICANS TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSALS AND PERMIT IMPLEMENTATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. YOUNG

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